

## Warden Message

September 22, 2009

Dear Warden and/or Registrant:

The U.S. Embassy in Quito wishes to inform American citizens visiting or resident in the Quito area that Massachusetts Voters should submit their Ballot Request now for the December 8, 2009 Special Primary. On Tuesday, December 8, 2009, Massachusetts will hold a special primary election followed by the special State election on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 to fill the vacancy left as a result of the passing of **Senator Edward M. Kennedy**. A list of candidates will be available by November 13, 2009 at: [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us).

### Request Your Ballot

Massachusetts waives voter registration. Request a ballot for this election by completing and submitting a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) if you have not done so already in calendar year 2009. If you are eligible to vote in this election, and requested and received a ballot for last year's presidential election, you will automatically receive an absentee ballot, and need not take any further action unless your mailing address has changed. The online version of the FPCA and Massachusetts' instructions on how to fill out and submit the form are available at: [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

### Recommended Mailing Dates for Your Ballot Request

Although the ballot request deadline is noon on Monday, December 7, 2009, this date does not take into account mail delivery times required to receive and return your ballot by Election Day. You should mail your FPCA by the following dates to account for mail delivery times:

From Operation Enduring/Iraqi Freedom Locations/Deployed Navy Vessels: **October 9, 2009**  
From Overseas Military Installations: **October 24, 2009**  
From Other Overseas Locations: **October 9, 2009** (or earlier, depending on foreign mail service)  
From Within the United States: **November 20, 2009**

To save transit time, send your signed FPCA directly to your local election office via fax or as an email attachment. Fax numbers and email addresses can be found at: [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us). You must also submit the original FPCA by mail if you fax or email the form.

### Receive and Return Your Ballot

Local election officials mail ballots beginning November 13, 2009. You may not receive your blank ballot by fax or email.

### Recommended Mailing Dates for Your Voted Ballot

Although the deadline for your voted ballot to be received by your local election official is 8 pm on December 8, 2009, you should mail your ballot by the following dates to account for mail delivery times:

From Operation Enduring/Iraqi Freedom Locations/Deployed Navy Vessels: **November 9, 2009**  
From Overseas Military Installations: **November 23, 2009**  
From Other Overseas Locations: **November 9, 2009** (or earlier, depending on foreign mail service)  
From Within the United States: **December 2, 2009**

To make sure your ballot arrives by the deadline, vote and return your ballot IMMEDIATELY upon receiving it! You may only return your voted ballot by mail. The ballot may not be returned electronically.

**Haven't Received Your Ballot by the Recommended Mailing Date Above?**

You may use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) in this Federal election. Feel free to send in a FWAB even if you have not applied for a State absentee ballot, especially if the recommended mailing dates for your voted ballot are approaching. An online version of the FWAB and Massachusetts instructions on how to fill out and submit the form are available at: [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

**For More Information:** Go to the Massachusetts election website at: [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us) or visit FVAP at: [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

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Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the [State Department's travel registration website](http://travel.state.gov), and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. Please see the following links for local warden message information in Quito and Guayaquil, respectively, <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov> and <http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov>.

U.S. citizens should consult the Country Specific Information for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the Department's web site at <http://travel.state.gov>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) is (011) 593 2 398 5000 X3800. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. See also the Embassy web site at <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov>. American Citizen walk-in hours are between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Thursday, excluding U.S. and Ecuadorian holidays.

The U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies; fax (011-593-4) 232-0904. See the Consulate General web site at <http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov>.